

Date: Wed, 22 Mar 95 09:41:48 PST
Mime-Version: 1.0
To: dia@wais.com
From: judy@wais.com (Judy Chen)
Subject: [Re: DAGS 95 panel text for review]

FYI
-Judy

At 2:30 AM 3/22/95, Brewster Kahle wrote:
>if you could put this in the DAGS conference file. thanks!
>
>-brewster
>
>>To: brewster@wais.com, dlt@lcs.mit.edu, timbl@hq.lcs.mit.edu
>>Cc: gloor@ifi.unizh.ch, Peter.z.h.g.p.a.Gloor@zhflur.ch.ubs.ch
>>Subject: DAGS 95 panel text for review
>>Date: Sun, 19 Feb 95 08:18:10 -0500
>>From: gloor@tarragon.lcs.mit.edu
>>X-Mts: smtp
>>
>>Dear DAGS 95 panel member,
>>
>>I would like to thank you again for
>>agreeing to be on the panel on
>>"Obstacles in the Implementation of Company-wide
>>Information Highways".
>>Following is the panel description.
>>Feel free to edit it, or to add personal
>>statements. Please particularly check/extend
>>the 2-3 line bio statement about yourself in the
>>beginning. I would like to ask you to get feedback
>>back to me until Feb. 22nd (sorry, but I got the
>>deadline two days ago)
>>
>>Cheers,
>>
>>Peter
>>
>>
>>+++++
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>>
>>Panel for "DAGS '95 Conference on Electronic
>>Publishing and the Information Superhighway"
>>May 30 - June 2 1995, Park Plaza Hotel Boston
>>
>>-----
>>Obstacles in the Implementation of Company-wide
>>Information Highways
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>>
>>Peter, A. Gloor, (Moderator), Union Bank of
>>Switzerland
>>Section Leader Software Engineering UBS, Adjunct
>>Assistant Professor, Dartmouth College. He is, among
>>other things, responsible for introducing a company-
>>wide WWW-based information system within UBS.
>>
>>Tim Berners-Lee, MIT
>>Inventor of WWW and leader of the MIT WWW
>>consortium.

>>
>>Brewster Kahle, WAIS Corporation
>>Inventor of WAIS, the Wide Area Information
>>Servers, originally developed at Thinking Machines
>>Corporation. He is now the President of the WAIS
>>Corporation.
>>
>>David Tennenhouse, MIT
>>Associate Professor for Electrical Engineering at the
>>MIT Laboratory for Computer Science. He is leader of
>>the Telemedia, Networks and Systems (TNS) Group. The
>>group conducts research in gigabit networking,
>>distributed video systems, and information
>>infrastructure.
>>
>>Abstract
>>-----
>>This panel discusses problems related with introducing
>>Internet/WWW-based company-wide information systems.
>>Companies have two options: they can either decide to
>>fully connect to the Internet, accepting thus the
>>risks of a system that still includes security,
>>performance, and ease-of-use flaws. The other option
>>is to use the information highway-technology within a
>>closed and more secure environment, thereby waiving
>>all the advantages of being connected to the rest of
>>the world.
>>
>>Introduction
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>>With the advent of the information superhighway,
>>readers have at their fingertips all they need to know
>>about electronic publishing, investment banking, or
>>for that matter Indian culture. On-line systems like
>>Archie, WAIS, DowQuest, etc., and most prominently
>>World-Wide Web, offer direct access to any source of
>>information on the world. Although the Information
>>Superhighway started out from academia, it has been
>>embraced in the meantime enthusiastically by the
>>business community at large. But behind the World Wide
>>Web servers stocked with product information,
>>marketing messages, inexpensive e-mail connections,
>>and appealing bulletin boards lies a network that
>>lacks auditability, privacy, reliability and security.
>>
>>Auditability, privacy and security
>>-----
>>According to the FBI computer crime unit, 80% of all
>>reported computer crimes involve the use of the
>>Internet to break into the computer. Although security
>>options, such as privacy-enhanced e-mail, exist, they
>>are not widely deployed. To protect their resources,
>>enterprises attaching their network to the Internet
>>normally erect and maintain firewall gateways. But as
>>companies already have learned, even firewalls are not
>>impermeable.
>>
>>Performance
>>-----
>>Because the Internet is a network of networks,
>>messages may travel through many subnetworks, some of
>>which are operated by volunteers at universities and

>>research centers. Although the Internet backbone is a
>>(relatively) high-performance network, the subnetworks
>>are not always reliable. Messages may be delayed or
>>even disappear altogether. If video is transmitted,
>>then even the high-performance backbone is quickly
>>saturated. Furthermore, because of the explosive
>>growth in Internet usage, network performance and
>>support problems can be expected in the near future.

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>>Ease of Use

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>>Using proprietary enterprise e-mail and information
>>systems is relatively easy. On the Internet, user-
>>friendly interfaces are just emerging. To support
>>corporate links to the Internet, it is necessary to
>>know UNIX and Internet addressing protocols.
>>Another problem is known under the term of Rbeing lost
>>in hyperspaceS. This means that the cognitive load of
>>locating the wanted information can be overwhelming.
>>Tools that assist in searching and retrieving in the
>>information universe as, e.g., WAIS, have been
>>available in the academic community for some time. In
>>the business community, they are just emerging.

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>>Use Information Superhighway Internally

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>>Once an Internet connection is in place, it can be
>>used for a variety of applications, some of them
>>inappropriate. For example, sensitive information may
>>wind up being unintentionally published over the
>>Internet. To fix this problem at least temporarily
>>until the general security and auditability problems
>>will be solved, a possible solution could be to use
>>parts of the Internet technology only within the
>>corporation.

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>>When is it Time to Connect

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>>Obviously if a company decides to close the gateway to
>>the outer world, it shuts itself out of all the
>>information available on the Internet. This can even
>>have advantages, as the company employees are not
>>distracted on the job by browsing through cyberspace.
>>Nevertheless, in the long run a company cannot afford
>>to close itself out of things like on-line publishing,
>>product catalogs, order taking, customer support,
>>database access, etc.

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